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(b) whether the amount charged has a bearing on the income of the patient concerned;

(c) whether this charge includes the fees for tests and cost of drugs;

(d) the amount included in this charge for diet charges;

(e) whether this rate has been reduced in this year;

(f) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY: (a) The amount charged at the Government General Hospital, Madras, is Rs. 3-12-0 per day. The amount charged at the Government Headquarters Hospital, Kozhikode, is Rs. 1-10-0, if the monthly income of the patient or the head of the family of patient does not exceed Rs. 149 and Rs. 2-4-0 if the monthly income is between Rs. 150 and Rs. 199. If the monthly income is Rs. 200 and above, the charge is Rs. 3-8-0 per day.

(b) The charges are not levied according to the income of the patient or of the head of the family of the patient in the Government General Hospital, Madras, whereas the amount charged in the Government Headquarters Hospital, Kozhikode, and all other Government Hospitals has a bearing on the income of the patient or of the head of the family of the patient.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The amount included in this charge for diet is Rs. 1-8-0 in the case of Government General Hospital, Madras. In respect of Government Headquarters Hospital, Kozhikode, the amount included as diet charges is Re. 0-12-0, Re. 1 and Rs. 1-8-0 respectively on the three income groups referred to in clause (a).

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

Commercial Tax Officers

* 2773 *Q.*—SRI V. R. KRISHNA AYYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have issued any instructions to officials of the Commercial Taxes Department forbidding the use by them of assessees' cars; and

(b) whether any officials have been punished for violation of these instructions, and if so, how many?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU: (a) Under subsidiary rule 3 under rule 3 of the Government Servants' Conduct Rules, Government servants are forbidden to make a habitual use of vehicles and animals belonging to others or to travel, free of charge, in any vehicle plying for hire. This rule applies to the officials of the Commercial Taxes Department also.

(b) No.

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SRI V. R. KRISHNA AYYAR : 'Habitual use' is a very variable and vague term. May I know whether the Government would issue categorical instructions to the officers of the Commercial Taxes Department not to use the assessees' automobiles?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : Sir, the rule is there and the very fact that no punishment has been meted out shows that the rule has been followed.

Electricity for the Kuthuparamba Community Development area

* 2774 *Q.*—SRI V. R. KRISHNA AYYAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have any scheme for the supply of electricity to the Community Development area of Kuthuparamba (North Malabar) ; and

(*b*) if so, when the supply is likely to be expected?

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI : (*a*) & (*b*) Out of the seventeen villages in the Kuthuparamba Community Development Project area 12 villages lie within the area of supply of the West Coast Electric Supply Corporation, Limited. The licensee has stated that he will be extending supply of power to Kuthuparamba and Panoor villages during the Second Five-Year plan period. The feasibility of extending supply to the remaining villages from the Cannanore, Badagara-Quilandy 33 K.V. line now under execution will be investigated by the Government Electricity Department soon after the main scheme is completed.

SRI V. R. KRISHNA AYYAR : I may mention for the information of the Hon. Minister that the main scheme is completed because Badagara and even almost Quilandy lines have been more or less laid and by December they will be completed. The Kuthuparamba firka has, since 1946, been declared to be one fit for Firka Development, National Extension Service and as a Block Development area. It is certainly not very creditable that the primary means of development of a local area, viz., electricity, has not yet been supplied. The West Coast Electric Supply Corporation, Limited, which is in charge of some villages which have been mentioned by the Hon. Minister now, has no scheme pending for taking electricity to Kuthuparamba. So, may I have an enlightenment from the Hon. Minister and may I also request him to give top priority to this area which is for the last nine years without electricity, to be included in the Development plans of the Madras Government?

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI : That is the information furnished by the West Coast Electric Supply Corporation, Limited, that they will be doing it during the Second Five-Year Plan period. But if the Government have to do it, it will have to be considered after we acquire the Corporation which is scheduled to take place during 1957–58.